

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

This program is potentially slanderous and seems to serve no one but the corporation's political interests - not the public. Particularly no one in our communities. Please, do not let this program air; or allow them to air it after the election so as not to promote their political ideas in such a huge arena - an arena which they own and can do (apparently) whatever they want with.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.